

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01      WARSAW 00672 251353Z  
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2897

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 0672

EXDIS

EO 11652GDS  
TAGS: PDIP, PL  
SUBJ: FAREWELL CALL ON FIRST SECRETARY GIEREK, JANUARY 25, 1978

1. I PAID MY FAREWELL VISIT THIS MORNING TO THE FIRST  
SECRETARY.

2. IN THE COURSE OF THE PLEASANTRIES WHICH CONSTITUTED  
NINETY PERCENT OF WHAT WE SAID, THE FIRST SECRETARY INVITED  
MY WIFE AND ME TO COME BACK TO POLAND WHENEVER WE COULD AS  
HIS GUESTS. HE REMINDED ME THAT, FOLLOWING HIS VISIT TO THE  
U.S. IN 1974, HE HAD INVITED ME TO MAKE USE WHENEVER I WISHED  
OF ANY OF THE POLISH GOVERNMENT'S REST HOUSES, AND ADDED  
THAT I HAD NOT AVAILED MYSELF OF THIS OFFER. I SAID THAT I  
HAD BEEN SO BUSY SINCE I CAME HERE THAT I HAD SIMPLY  
NOT BEEN ABLE TO FIND TIME TO ACCEPT THAT INVITATION. (OF  
COURSE, I FELT I COULD NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT INVITATION  
WITHOUT PUTTING MYSELF VERY MUCH IN THE DEBT OF THIS REGIME.)  
GIEREK SAID HE HOPED MY WIFE AND I WOULD COME BACK AS OFTEN  
AS WE COULD AND, WHEN WE DID, MRS. GIEREK AND HE WOULD  
LIKE TO SEE US. "JUST TELEPHONE THIS OFFICE," HE SAID,  
"IF I CAN, I WILL SEE YOU. IF I AM TIED UP AND CAN'T SEE  
YOU, WE WILL ARRANGE TO GET TOGETHER LATER."

3. I SAID I CERTAINLY LOOKED FORWARD TO SEEING HIM  
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AGAIN, EITHER IN POLAND OR, I HOPED, THE U.S. PERHAPS, I  
ADDED, EVEN LATER THIS YEAR IN THE U.S.

4. GIEREK SAID HE GREATLY DOUBTED THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE  
TO GO TO THE U.S. IN 1978. FIRST, HE SAID, IT WAS  
IMPERATIVE THAT HE SPEND MORE TIME IN THE COUNTRY, WORK-  
ING ON THE MANY PROBLEMS POLAND HAS. SECONDLY, HE SAID,

THE REDUCED AMOUNT OF TIME THUS AVAILABLE FOR TRAVEL ABROAD WAS ALREADY FULLY TAKEN UP. PERHAPS, HE ADDED, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO THINK OF A VISIT IN 1979, IF THAT SHOULD PROVE TO BE CONVENIENT TO PRESIDENT CARTER. I SAID I WOULD MENTION THIS TO INTERESTED PEOPLE IN WASHINGTON.

5. IN PARTING, I SAID THAT I NOT ONLY HOPED, BUT, BEING A BELIEVER, ALSO PRAYED FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE POLISH PEOPLE IN SOLVING THEIR PROBLEMS AND FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE FIRST SECRETARY IN COMPLETING THE WORK HE HAD BEGUN OF GIVING THE POLES A CHANCE FINALLY TO ENJOY THE FRUITS OF THEIR LABORS. GIEREK SAID THAT, AS I KNEW, HE HAD NOW PASSED 65 YEARS OF AGE. HE DID NOT KNOW HOW LONG HIS STRENGTH WOULD LAST, BUT, AS LONG AS IT DID, HE WOULD CONTINUE TO DO HIS BEST FOR THE POLISH PEOPLE. IN HIS HOME WHEN HE WAS A BOY, THE CHILDREN HAD BEEN TAUGHT THAT THE HIGHEST VIRTUE OF A POLE WAS HIS INSTINTING WILLINGNESS TO WORK FOR POLAND AND FOR THE UNITY AND HAPPINESS OF THE POLISH PEOPLE (COMMENT: WHO, OF COURSE, WERE THEN DIVIDED AMONG THE THREE PARTILTONGING POWERS). SO LONG AS HE COULD, HE WOULD CONTINUE TO TRY TO DO THAT.

6. IN THE COURSE OF THE CONVERSATION, GIEREK CHARGED ME TO TELL MY SUCCESSOR TO COME DIRECTLY TO HIM, AS I HAD DONE, WHEN THERE WERE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE WAY THINGS WERE GOING IN POLAND. RATHER THAN PUTTING HIS FAITH IN  
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RUMORS, HALF-TRUTHS, AND WILD GUESSES, GIEREK SAID, LET HIM COME TO ME AND I WILL TELL HIM WHAT HIS GOING ON. "YOU CAN'T JUST SIT IN AN EMBASSY," HE SAID, "AND SOMEHOW SMELL OUT THE COURSE OF EVENTS BY SOME SORT OF INSTINCTUAL PROCESS." I SAID I WOULD TELL MY SUCCESSOR THIS.

7. I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE VISIT TO DELIVER THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER, WHICH I HAD HELD UNTIL THE ARRIVAL, ON JANUARY 23, OF THE MISSING LETTER TO CHAIRMAN JABLONSKI. GIEREK EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR IT AND SAID HE WOULD HAVE IT TRANSLATED AND WOULD READ IT IMMEDIATELY AFTER OUR MEETING.

DAVIES

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NNN



## Message Attributes

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